

Carleton University  
Department of Political Science

Fall 2007 / Winter 2008

**PSCI 2300A**  
**History of Political Thought**

Monday, Wednesday 10:35-11:25pm; 101 Azrieli Theatre

**Instructor's Name:** Dr. Tom Darby  
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**Office:** C675 Loeb Building  
**Office Hours:** 11:40- 1:30 Monday  
11:40-1:30 Wednesday

1:00-2:00 Tuesday

**Purpose of the course:**

This course is an introduction to the Classical Pagan, Classical Christian and 'Great Modern' western political philosophers. The theme that connects these thinkers is the fundamental concern of philosophy itself – the status of the relation of action to thought. The focus of this course will be 'globalization', ancient and modern. You will note that, with only one exception, all of the **required** sources for this course are the original writings of the authors who actually wrote them. The primary purpose of this course is to teach students how to interpret rich and complex ideas found in philosophical and political texts and to speak and write about them clearly. Except for the 'template essay' by Harvey Mansfield, "How to Understand Politics", the use of secondary sources is strictly forbidden.

**Sources in order:**

1. Plato - "The Apology of Socrates", "The Crito" (recommended: Plato's "Euthyphro", and "Phaedo" and Aristophanes' "Clouds")  
Plato – "The Republic of Plato", Bks I, II, V, VI, VII
2. Aristotle - *The Politics*, selected chapters TBA (recommended :short selected sections from The Ethics, The Physics and The Metaphysics, TBA)
3. Course pack consisting of selections from the writings of St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas (recommended: the following books from the Jewish and Christian Bibles: "Genesis", "Exodus", Isaiah", "Jeremiah", "Daniel" "Matthew", "Mark," "Luke", "John", "Revelation" .You are urged to use the New English Bible, and if not that, then the Revised Standard Version, in that they are the most scholarly texts. However, since no other literary work has influenced the English language more than the King James Version, using it is justifiable.)
4. Machiavelli – *The Prince*
5. Hobbes – *Leviathan*
6. Rousseau – *The First and Second Discourses*
7. Hegel – *Reason in History*
8. Marx – *Communist Manifesto*
9. Nietzsche – *On the Advantage and Disadvantage of History for Life*

### General Schedule of Lectures and Readings:

Sept. 10 – Orientation  
 Sept. 12, 17 – Introduction: Spiritual Crisis and the Athenian ‘Globalization’ of the Mediterranean World.  
 Sept. 19, 24, 26 – “Apology”  
 Oct. 1,3 – “Crito”, Phaedo”  
 Oct. 10 - 24 – “Republic”  
 Oct. 29- Nov. 5 – The Politics  
 Nov. 7 – 12 - Swing Lectures – Empire: Alexander and Rome  
 Nov. 14, 19 – The Jewish Bible  
 Nov. 21- 26 - The Christian Bible  
 Nov. 28 – Dec. 3 - Spiritual Crisis, the Fall of Rome and the philosophy of St. Augustine  
 Dec. 5 - Dec. 5 – The Medieval World Picture: St. Thomas and the ‘Great Chain of Being’  
 Jan. 4 - Swing lecture - the Renaissance and the Reformation  
 Jan. – Machiavelli - Hobbes and the Spiritual Crisis of Modernity  
 Feb. – Hobbes ending with Swing Lecture on Shakespeare (recommended reading: “King Lear”, “Macbeth”, “The Tempest”, “Henry V”, “ Hamlet”)  
 Feb- March – Rousseau, Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche  
 Conclusion: Spiritual Crisis, Technology and Globalization (recommended reading: Samuel P. Huntington, *The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order*)

You should use **ONLY** the exact texts and translations ordered for the course as I will be making continuous reference to page numbers and passages from these editions. You will also be expected to cite from these editions in your essays.

### Course Requirements:

15%	Tutorial Participation
15%	First Term Essay (app. 14pp. due Monday, January 7 <sup>th</sup> ) ( <i>Note: essay not a research paper, i.e., exclusive use of required course sources, thus, no-secondary sources allowed.</i> )
15%	Midterm Exam (To be scheduled during formal exam period, Dec. 6 – 22 / 07)
20%	In-class Keyword Exam (Wednesday, March 19, 2008)
35%	Second Term Essay (app. 17 pp. due Wednesday, April 9, 2008)

**NOTE:** Attendance is required at all lectures and tutorials. Valid excuses accepted, otherwise, absenteeism will not be tolerated.

### Academic Accommodations

**For Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) to complete the necessary forms. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first in-class**

**test or CUTV midterm exam.** This will allow for sufficient time to process your request. Please note the following deadlines for submitting completed forms to the PMC for formally scheduled exam accommodations: **November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007** for December examinations, and **March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008** for April examinations.

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance ([www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)).

**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as: "to use and pass off as one's own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another." The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another's work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student's own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student's own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department's Style Guide is available at: <http://www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/Essay%20Style%20Guide.html>

**Oral Examination:** At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Course Requirements:** Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Connect Email Accounts:** The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See <http://connect.carleton.ca> for instructions on how to set up your account.